

ENERGY STREAMLINING TASK FORCE PROJECT SUMMARY

Name: Pinedale Anticline Oil & Gas Exploration Development Project

EP-3A

Entity Proposing Project: Yates Petroleum Corporation (Snell & Wilmer LLP submitted comments)

Category of Project: Exploration & Production

Brief description of project: Pinedale Anticline operators supported a proposal to develop 700 well pads within Pinedale Anticline Project Area (“PAPA”) over next 10-15 years.

Agencies that must be consulted and agencies from which approval is needed:

Federal: Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Project Timeline:

Record of Decision issued by BLM – July 27, 2000; approved project and included resource protection alternatives and Adaptive Environmental Management (AEM) process

Yates Petroleum Corporation v. Norton – filed November 6, 2000; asserts that AEM process is contrary to NEPA process (allows agency to defer unresolved issues and environmental impacts until after ROD is issued; potential for AEM management team to assume lead agency role, which would otherwise be BLM under NEPA; shifts NEPA from procedural statute to substantive statute; moves NEPA from one-time analysis to continuous cycle of planning and monitoring)

Reasons for bringing project to the task force’s attention: Suggests that AEM process be discontinued in favor of NEPA process